Recovery Act Investment Moves EM Past Milestone of 100 Project Completions

WASHINGTON, D.C. – The Office of Environmental Management's (EM) American Recovery and Reinvestment Act Program recently paused to observe a notable achievement: completion of more than 100 projects in its \$6 billion cleanup of the Manhattan Project and Cold War legacy.

"We marked an important milestone when we safely completed a significant amount of work — 103 of the 129 projects and activities that comprise the Recovery Actfunded cleanup in 12 states across the DOE Complex," EM Recovery Act Program Director Thomas Johnson said. "In addition, we are on schedule to complete the bulk of the remaining projects in this fiscal year and the last few in fiscal year 2013."

Johnson noted other significant accomplishments in the program. More than 90 percent of the completed Recovery Act projects met cost and schedule targets and Recovery Act work is now complete at 10 of the 18 sites across the EM Complex that received Recovery Act funding.

"That is good news to American taxpayers as we move into the final stage of EM Recovery Act work," Johnson said.

Success in the program also can be measured by the area of land cleaned up using Recovery Act funds. The latest figures available show Recovery Act work reduced the footprint of the EM Complex by 70%, or 655 of 931 square miles.

Building demolitions completed on time and scheduled at Oak Ridge National Laboratory (ORNL) helped push the Recovery Act Program past the milepost of 100 project completions. Workers there demolished 11 excess contaminated facilities, accounting for 35,802 square feet, within the northeast and southeast portion of ORNL's main campus. Historically, these facilities were used to support reactor area operations and for various laboratory support activities.

Also at Oak Ridge, workers demolished and disposed of 16 general maintenance facilities, accounting for 55,400 square feet. The project also funded the decontamination and decommissioning of seven contaminated Laboratory Complex facilities, totaling 24,700 square feet, within ORNL's central campus.

The removal of these Manhattan Project and Cold War-era facilities significantly improves safety at the site, while enhancing modernization efforts to advance future missions and research at ORNL.





Above: Before-and-after photos show the Recovery Act demolition of Building 3550, one of the first facilities constructed at the Oak Ridge National Laboratory. It was constructed in 1943 as one of the original Manhattan Project-era facilities.

Below: Recovery Act workers demolish Building 3508, the last facility demolished as part of the 34-facility decontamination and demolition project at the Oak Ridge National Laboratory.



"Recovery Act funding enabled Oak Ridge to accelerate and complete many meaningful cleanup projects across the Oak Ridge Reservation," said Sue Cange, deputy manager for Oak Ridge's Office of Environmental Management. "We are proud that our work made an impact locally and contributed to the overall success of the EM Complex. I am especially pleased how our staff worked closely with local and headquarters staff members to put the funding and contracts in place quickly to accomplish the Recovery Act Program goals."